DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

Bureau of Air Quality
Clean Air Mercury Rule (CAMR)
Stakeholder Meeting Notes
October 4, 2006

Attendees: See attached list.

Introductions and Opening Comments:

The Department presented draft rules for the Clean Air Interstate Rule and the Clean Air Mercury Rule and requested approval from the DHEC Board to proceed with the rulemaking process during the September 14, 2006, Board meeting. The main focus of the October 4, 2006, stakeholder meeting was to discuss the comments that the Board had concerning the Clean Air Mercury Rule.

General Discussion of the Clean Air Mercury Rule

The meeting began with a discussion of our regulatory process, specifically the schedule for the steps in rulemaking (staff informational forum, publication of notices in the State Register, public hearing, etc.). Then, the group discussed the Board's suggestions and concerns as listed below:

- 1. The Public Health Set-aside should be increased.
- 2. The allowances held in the Public Health Set-aside should not be made available for use until 2018.
- 3. Trading of allowances should be limited or restricted, if allowed at all.
- 4. Incentives for adding controls or making early reductions should be considered.
- 5. A study of mercury deposition should be conducted, and additional controls or changes should be required of utilities if the results of the study show that their emissions are excessive or result in hot spots.

Much of the discussion reiterated concerns as discussed in previous meetings. However, some areas where the Board's concerns could be addressed were discussed. These include increasing the amount of the Public Health Set-aside and clarifying details of the mercury study, such as additional requirements of any unit shown by the study's results to adversely affect the environment or public health

Next Steps

The Department will proceed with publishing the Notice of Proposed Regulations as approved by the Board on September 14, 2006. However, based on comments and input from those attending the October 4, 2006, stakeholder meeting, the Department will draft possible wording that should address most, if not all, of the Board's concerns. The draft wording will be distributed via email to the stakeholders for their review and comment.

Next Meeting:

No further meetings have been scheduled at this time.

Those attending the October 4, 2006 meeting were:

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